

## THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC RECREATION COMMISSION

September 18, 2007

The regular meeting of the Public Recreation Commission was held on September 18, 2007 at 4:00pm at the Waterfront Administration Office, with the following members present: Mmes. Driehaus and Ingram, and Messrs. Smith, and Fultz, with Ms. Driehaus presiding. Staff in attendance: Mmes. Simmons, Shannon, Barnes, and Gutjahr and Messrs. Merrifield, Bigham, Koopman, Thomas, Williams, and LeConey.

### MINUTES

Mr. Fultz moved, seconded by Ms. Ingram, to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2007 meeting as submitted.

Motion passed.

### CORRESPONDENCE

#### Email Regarding Tony Beard

Staff received an email regarding the death of Anthony J. "Tony" Beard. Mr. Beard was a lifeguard for CRC. This item was received for filing.

#### Article Regarding Price Hill Center

There was an article in the August 23, 2007 *Enquirer* regarding the Price Hill Center looking for funds to keep their successful summer program operating. This item was received for filing.

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

#### Program Highlight – Waterfront (Kathy Shannon)

Kathy Shannon provided copies of the Waterfront and Special Events 2006 Highlights and the 2006 Annual Report.

Ms. Shannon reported that they had six new events this year and praised staff on the wonderful job they have been doing. Along with all the other great events, 2006 was a Tall Stacks year. Tall Stacks entailed one million visitors, 2,200 volunteers, 100 corporate sponsors, 75 national and regional acts, 16

paddle wheelers, 5 days, 3 cities, 2 counties, and 1 group of totally exhausted Waterfront staff.

2006 was a banner year at Sawyer Point for events and rentals. Between March 1<sup>st</sup> and October 30<sup>th</sup>, Sawyer Point was the site of 71 events. The total estimated Sawyer Point attendance for 2006 was 1,702,105.

The extensive park makeover in 2006 was made possible by the coordinated efforts of the CRC Crafts Maintenance and Technical Service Divisions. Thanks to a grant provided by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources we were able to re-open the Cincinnati Riverfront Marina on the Public Landing. The marina features a new head boat complete with restrooms, showers, deck space, and 480 feet of dock. Total Capital Improvement dollars spent at the Waterfront was \$289,400.00.

#### Information and Briefing Items

Dr. Merrifield supplied Commissioners with a listing of CRC's 2007 Retirees. Seven staff retired on September 8<sup>th</sup> and 15 more will retire by the end of the year.

Dr. Merrifield reported that he, Mike Thomas, and Chris Bigham met with the City manager on the Vacancy Review Board on August 31<sup>st</sup>. The City Manager accepted recommendations presented by staff. We should be able to replace about one half of our retiring staff.

The Recreation Foundation met on September 5<sup>th</sup>. The Foundation is doing well and looking to bring in a part time director.

Cincinnati Red's pitcher, Aaron Harang, received the Roberto Clemente award. He donated the \$7,500.00 cash award and matched the donation with his own money to assist with the development of the fully accessible Miracle Field project at Oskamp Sports Park.

The Cincinnati Academy of Leadership for Lawyers Class XI has approached Dr. Merrifield regarding a donation for play environment at Ryan Park.

The NRPA Conference will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana, September 25-28, 2007. Kathy Shannon advised that we have 8 staff registered and she has reserved 5 rooms.

### Youth Commission Member Report

The Youth Report was omitted from the agenda packets. This report will be mailed to Commissioners.

### OLD BUSINESS

The Golf Advisory Council Bylaws Revision was tabled at the August 21, 2007 meeting due to Rob Williams' absence.

Under Article V – Membership, Rev. Smith questioned the last sentence that states “The other five members of the Golf Advisory Council shall be designated as “at large” members.” The membership is being increased to thirteen from eleven and it should state “The remaining members of the Golf Advisory Council shall be designated as “at large” members.”

Catherine Ingram moved, seconded by Rev. Smith, to approve the Golf Advisory Council Bylaws Revision as submitted with the above change.

Motion passed.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### Appointment of CRC Public Art Committee Member

Carolyn Gutjahr recommends the appointment of Thomas Phelps as a new committee member to the CRC Public Art Committee. The appointment is for a one-year term to fill the unexpired term of Linda Shearer (September 18, 2007 – August 31, 2008).

Mr. Fultz moved, seconded by Ms. Ingram, to approve the appointment of Thomas Phelps as a new committee member to the CRC Public Art Committee.

Motion passed.

#### Transfer of Property located at 1822 Ashbrook Drive from the Western Wildlife Corridor

This parcel of land is almost 4 acres and is located adjacent to and across the creek from the Dunham Recreation Complex.

Ms. Ingram moved, seconded by Rev. Smith, to approve the transfer of this property from the Western Wildlife Corridor.

Motion passed.

Donation of Property located at 5688 Belmont Avenue from the Ohio  
Presbyterian Retirement Services

The Ohio Presbyterian Retirement Services desires to purchase this property and donate the house and land to CRC. This property is adjacent to the College Hill Playground and Pool. CRC would be responsible for the demolition and removal of the house currently on the land and restore the site to park space. Mr. Thomas advised that this property would provide a good location to place CRC signage.

Rev. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Ingram, to approve the donation of the property at 5688 Belmont Avenue.

Motion passed.

Field Trips

Mr. Fultz moved, seconded by Rev. Smith, to approve the Field Trip Requests as submitted.

Motion passed.

ADDIITIONAL INFORMATION

Mr. Fultz presented candidate information for a Lifetime Golf Pass for Pat McKinney. He would like Ms. McKinney to be considered for Lifetime Golf Privileges. Commissioners will review the information and Mr. Fultz's request will be on the October 16, 2007 Commission agenda.

COMMISSION MEETING

The next meeting of the Public Recreation Commission will be held on Tuesday, October 16, 2007 at 4:00pm in the Main Office Boardroom.

Meeting Adjourned.

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Denise M. Driehaus, President

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Norman C. Merrifield, Ed. D., Director